

SAM LAMIN & PSEUDO'S ON OKEH (SOME SESSIONS WITH I.R.N.)
(SEE ALSO RUST'S "ANGEL DANCE BAND DISCOGRAPHY" - LAMIN, IPANA TROUBADOURS) ✓

RED NICHOLS

(SEE ALSO RUST'S "JAZZ RECORDS")

MEMORIAL ISSUE

by Woody Backensto ALSO SEE JEPSON ('44-'61)



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RED NICHOLS MEMORIAL ISSUE

by Woody Backensta

This issue is dedicated to the living memory of a unique musical legacy -- one originated, developed, and purveyed by Red Nichols, his talents, artistry, and ability to entertain.

Record Research, since its inception, has been the leading medium for providing record statistics and information. These pages have brought to light facts about the careers of those featured on phonograph records. Such a service has helped bring public acclaim to current performers and helped the historian, collector, listener, reader, etc. learn of records which preserve the musical creations of departed talents.

Red Nichols is no newcomer to the text of Record Research. "Small Change", a regular column, has been devoted to the activities and accomplishments of this cornet stylist. A Red Nichols Souvenir Issue appeared in April-May 1957 (Issue 12).

The Souvenir Issue told "The Red Nichols Story" briefly under the by-line "From Nichols and Pennies --- Millions!" The issue included a Modern Red Nichols Discography --- since 1940. "Small Change" gave dates and details of early SAM LANIN recordings from the files of first-trumpeter on the sessions, Victor D'Ippolito. There was one additional story which dispensed facts on how Red's "Girl Crazy" band gave notice while Red was recuperating from an illness. This incident, by the way, started Benny Goodman on his career as a bandleader.

This Memorial Issue presents the following:

1. A "Small Change" column telling of Red's attendance at Culver Military Academy.
2. A Sam Lanin Discography on the Okeh label, in collaboration with Bert Whyatt, which attempts to identify the sessions where Red participated.
3. A story "Before The Intermission" tracing the band activities just before Red left the music business.
4. "After The Fermata". Musically, the hold sign or fermata indicates a pause in the music. Red returned.
5. A discographic dilemma, "The Meandering MacGregors" by Red Nichols and His Five Pennies.
6. "The Five Pennies Paperback -- Removing its Poetic License".
7. A Red Nichols Discography Since 1956.
8. "Coda" -- the final passage which brings a musical composition to a formal close.

These items are offered for the reader's pleasure. Comments are most welcome. Details, additions, verifications, etc. are always of interest to the writer. Unscrambling the perplexing MacGregor transcriptions can only be accomplished with help from presently unknown sources.

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NOSTALGIA!!

RED NICHOLS AT CULVER



The RED NICHOLS road band of 1935 before Red became the conductor for two radio shows: The Atlantic White Flash Family with Bob Hope and the Kellogg Prom Series with guest stars. Taken at a studio on 57th Street where they made a movie short while in New York. This was June Rae's only appearance with the band. Personnel: Manny Strand(p); Paul Collins(dm); George Schmidt and Ray McCosh(tp); Buford Trego and Buck Weaver (tb); Bill Lower(bass); Russ Crowell, George Bacon, Frank Wilcher(The Three Songies); Gilbert Swager, Howard Jenkins, and Don Purviance(reeds); King Harvey(g). Courtesy of Frank Driggs.



Red doing his thing mid 1935 for Kellogg Corn Flakes..



Red on Snader Telerecording (c.1953). Taken from TV screen. Courtesy of Duncan P. Schiedt.



A Bandleader's Group (l to r) Russ Morgan, Red Norvo, Joe Venuti and Red Nichols.. Courtesy of Duncan P. Schiedt

Red Nichols attended Culver Military Academy, Culver, Indiana. Biographies generally state that Red was expelled from the Academy for smoking. The paperback book "The Five Pennies", published to coincide with the movie by that name, also says Red was kidded about his religion while at the Academy. Parts of these 'facts' must be the result of fictional editorializing.

Dr. Raymond Forsyth, well-known in the Detroit area as the former trainer for the Tigers, Lions, and Pistons as well as at the University of Detroit, was Red's roommate at Culver. The "Doc" reports that everyone at Culver liked Red -- he didn't have an enemy in the world -- he was always laughing and playing jokes. Furthermore, the religious issue and the 'smoking bit' were untrue.

As a 14-year-old lad, Red Nichols entered Culver Military Academy in December 1919. Friends of the family felt that Red would benefit from several years at the Academy and wrote highly enthusiastic recommendations on his behalf. A woman lawyer in Ogden Utah wrote he was a "musical genius" and that "a bright future awaits him." Others described him as "alert, over active, and quick mentally", but here his achievements came solely in the field of music. Though his application arrived after school had begun Red was accepted and given scholarship funds. Red told me he was awarded a music scholarship on the recommendation of Herbert L. Clarke, the noted cornet artist, who had heard Red at a concert.

Red played piano, violin and cornet and W. J. O'Callaghan, who was to become musical director at Culver for many years, took an interest in him. His achievements came on the cornet because the other instruments were secondary to him.

Because he was a spirited boy his energies led him in many directions. He played first cornet in the Culver symphony and marching band and organized a jazz group which played mostly right at Culver. Forsyth was the drummer in these musical organizations and recalls that a good friend of Red's was clarinetist Paul Mason who lived across the hall. Another schoolmate was Horace Heidt who later claimed that Red would not let him play piano in the Culver jazz band. By the way Enrico Caruso's son was also attending Culver at the same time.

Red had academic problems mostly because he entered late and spent the rest of the year attempting to catch up. Furthermore, his interests were dominated by his music. He enrolled in the Culver Summer School and was a member of the Naval School Band. But here again his spirit and drive resulted in a series of problems which led to his dismissal in September 1920 prior to opening of Winter School.

Dr. Forsyth thought that Red was dismissed after being caught wearing a monogrammed letter sweater home on vacation; while smoking might have contributed it was not the real reason. Red really liked athletics, but being small in stature he could not participate in sports.

From what I can gather, Red had accumulated a series of negative factors including a less than brilliant academic record and minor infractions of regulations, including the misappropriation of a monogram worn on a letter sweater. Smoking or wearing a letter sweater illegally, by themselves, are hardly cause for dismissal.

Considering all factors the Academy apparently decided that Red would not profit from further experience at Culver and should not return as a student. Red understood this decision and regretted his actions. He wrote to Professor O'Callaghan that he would "live it down even if I have to go back and apologize to every faculty member face-to-face."

Apparently he made it up to Culver in future years because he was restored to the Academy's list of alumni. Red was proud to be a part of the Culver tradition; to the very end his repertoire included a medley of songs he had known at Culver 45 years before.

This disciplinary action was impressed in Red's character. It no doubt made Red a stronger taskmaster later on with his sidemen as well as himself. Dr. Sigmund Freud could have explained this more effectively than I!

My thanks to Stan Hester who spoke to Dr. Forsyth on behalf of these notes.

THE ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS:
74508A OK 40874. TING-A-LING, THE BELLS'LL RING
80148A OK 40700. GIVE ME A UKULELE AND A UKULELE BABY (Lem Cleg, vocal)
80149B OK 40699. JUST A BIRD'S EYE VIEW (OF MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME)(Lem Cleg, vo)
80150B OK 40699. HALF A MOON (IS BETTER THAN NO MOON)(Lem Cleg, vocal)
note: OK 40699 as ARABY GARDEN'S ORCHESTRA

SAM LANIN'S MELODY SHEKES:
80186 OK 40709. LOOKING AT THE WORLD THROUGH ROSE COLORED GLASSES
80187 OK 40709. HERE COMES FATIMA

74415A OK 40716. MY BABY KNOWS HOW (Lem Cleg, vocal)
-PaAu A2135
80206A OK 40716. I OON'T MIND BEING ALL ALONE WHEN I'M ALL ALONE WITH YOU (Lem Cleg, vocal)
-PaAu A2155

THE ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS:
W80225B OK 40727. I CAN'T GET OVER A GIRL LIKE YOU (Lem Cleg, vocal)
-PaE E5761, OAG A189004, Lind A4503
W80226C OK 40724. TAKE IN THE SUN, HANG OUT THE MOON (Lem Cleg, vocal)
-PaE E5774, OAG 04003, Lind A4502
W80227A OK 40727. BROWN SUGAR
-PaE E5761, OAG A189004, Lind A4503

THE MELODY SHEKES: *-- Not Nichols, an imitation
W80264B OK 40745. ONE ALONE (Paul Hagan, vocal)
-PaE E5763, OAG 04005
W80265B OK 40744. TELL ME TONIGHT (Paul Hagan, vocal)
-PaE E5770, Ariel 4206
W80266B OK 40744. IDOLIZING (Paul Hagan, vocal)
-PaE E5770
note: Ariel 4206 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA

SAM LANIN AND HIS FAMOUS PLAYERS:
W80281B OK 40740. IN A LITTLE SPANISH TOWN (Irving Kaufman, vocal)
-PaE R3319, PaAu A2417, PaG A4505, OAG 04004
W80282C OK 40740. NOONLIGHT ON THE GANGES (Irving Kaufman, vocal)
-PaAu A2417, PaG A4505, OAG 04004

W80288A OK 40758. IT MADE YOU HAPPY WHEN YOU MADE ME CRY (Russell Douglas, vocal)
-PaE R3318, PaAu A2144, OAG A189005
W80289A OK 40738. I'VE GOTTA GET MYSELF SOMEBODY TO LOVE (Russell Douglas, vocal)
-PaE R3318, PaAu A2144, OAG A189005

W80326 OK 40754. BLUE SKIES (Vaughn de Leath, vocal)
-PaE R3319, PaG A4513, OAG A189009, Lind A4513
W80327 OK 40754. YANKEE ROSE (Vaughn de Leath, vocal)
-PaE R3325, PaG A4513, OAG A189009, Lind A4513

*-- no Nichole heard
W80342A OK 40761. MOONDREAMS! KISS HER FOR ME (vocal)
-PaE E5823, Ariel 4229, OAG A189020
W80343 OK 40766. I'M LOOKING OVER A FOUR LEAF CLOVER (Irving Kaufman, vocal)
-PaE R3325, OAG A189020
note: OK 40761 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE E5823 as PARLOPHONE MELODIANS;
Ariel 4229 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA

*-- Nichols solos
W80362 OK 40762. I WANT TO BE MILES FROM EVERYONE
-PaE E5823
W80383B OK 40761. IT ALL DEPENDS ON YOU (vocal)
note: OK 40761 and 40762 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE E5823 as PARLOPHONE MELODIANS

W80476 OK 40761. RIO RITA (vocal)
-PaAu A2377, PaG A4515, OAG 04030, A189014, A221198, Lind A4515,
/Odit 167232, Ariel 24610, PaE R529
W80477 OK 40761. THE KINKAJOU - PaE R529
-PaAu A2377, PaG A4515, OAG 04030, A189014, A221198, Lind A4515
note: Odit 167232 as SAM LANIN ORCHESTRA;
Ariel 24610 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA

*-- Nichols possible, altho no real solo
W80874B OK 40810. IT'S A HAPPY OLD WORLD AFTER ALL (vocal)
-PaE E5854, OAG 04017
W80875B OK 40810. SIDE BY SIDE (vocal)
-PaE R3348, OAG 04017
note: PaE E5854 as PARLOPHONE MELODIANS

*-- Nichols solos
W80934C OK 40853. SHE'S GOT "IT" (vocal)
-PaE R3348, PaAu A2269, PaG R12515, OAG A189065
W81099A OK 40833. SA-LU-TA! (vocal)
-PaE R3348, PaAu A2268, PaG A4522
note: despite the gap in these matrix numbers it seems almost certain that these two sides were made at the same session

*-- Nichols very doubtful here
W81011C OK 40839. JUST ANOTHER DAY WASTED AWAY (Sadie Green, vocal)
-PaE R3377
W81012C OK 40839. GORGEOUS (Sadie Green, vocal)
-PaE R3377
note: OK 40839 as OKEH MELODIANS

*-- no distinctive tp solo
W81120A OK 40855. SING ME A BABY SONG (Russell Douglas, vocal)
-PaE R3378, PaAu A2513, PaG R12518, OAG A189039
W81121B OK 40855. ON A DEW, DEW DEXEY DAY (Russell Douglas, vocal)
-PaE R3364, PaAu A2271, Odisp 183,035
W81122B OK 40863. JUST ONCE AGAIN (Russell Douglas, vocal)
-PaE R3415, PaG A4527
note: PaE R3364 as TAPA BLUE ORCHESTRA

*-- Nichols solos on 81239
W81239C OK 40876. THE VARSITY DRAG (vocal trio)
-PaE R175
W81240C OK 40874. PAREE (vocal trio)
-PaG A4529, OAG A189084
note: OK 40878 as OKEH MELODIANS

*-- Nichols very doubtful here (Sorry, Bert!)
W81249C OK 40876. LUCKY IN LOVE (vocal)
-PaE R175
W81250B OK 40874. DANCING TALLBOURNE
-PaE R3414, PaG A4529, OAG A189084
note: OK 40876 as OKEH MELODIANS

*-- Nichols' pressance possible
W81447A OK 40898. MY BLUE HEAVEN (vocal)
W81447B PaE R3436. MY BLUE HEAVEN (vocal)
W81448B OK 40805. A SHADY TREE (vocal)
-PaE R3437
W81449B OK 40898. THERE AIN'T NO LAM LIKE DIXIELAND TO ME (vocal)
-PaE R3438
note: OK 40898 and 40905 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE R3438 as SAM LANIN'S ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS

*-- possibly Leo McConville (tp)
W81496C OK 40905. WHEN THE MORNING GLORIES WAKE UP IN THE MORNING (vocal)
-PaE R3437
W81497A OK 40913. SUGARTIME SWEETHEARTS (Lem Cleg, vocal)
-PaE R3488
W81498B OK 40913. A SKEIN DREAM
-PaE R3458, PaG A4913, OAG A189064
note: OK 40905 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE R3488 as SAM LANIN'S ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS

*-- Nichols solos on 81507
W81505A OK 40902. SOMEBODY LIED ABOUT ME waltz (vocal)
-PaE R3454, PaG A4918, OAG A189072
W81506B OK 40902. DIANE waltz (vocal)
-PaE R3454, PaG A4918, OAG A189072
W81507C OK 40914. EVERYBODY LOVES MY GIRL (vocal)
-PaE R3527
note: OK 40914 as THE TEXANS

W81548A OK 40919. TOGETHER WE TWO (Seger Ellis, vocal)
-PaE R3459
W81549B OK 40919. WHAT'LL YOU DO? (Seger Ellis, vocal)
-PaE R3459
W81550B OK 40933. THERE MUST BE SOMEBODY ELSE (Seger Ellis, vocal)
-PaE R3458, OAG A189080
note: OK 40919 as JUSTIN RING'S OKEH ORCHESTRA

W81565B OK 40925. THINKING OF YOU (vocal)
-PaE R311
W81566A OK 40925. UP IN THE CLOUDS (vocal)
-PaE R311
W81567A OK 40927. WHEN IS MY MEYER? (vocal)
-PaE R103
note: OK 40925 as BOB STEPHENS AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
OK 40927 as GOTHAM TROUBADOURS

*-- Nichols solos on 81794
W81792B OK 40937. MY NEW YORK (vocal)
-PaE R3531, OAG A189091
W81795B OK 40941. THE REGGAR (vocal)
-PaE E5999
W81794A OK 40937. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL MY LIFE (vocal duet)
-PaE R230, OAG A189081
note: OK 40941 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE R3531 as ROOF GARDEN ORCHESTRA
PaE E5999 as WILL PERRY'S ORCHESTRA

*-- Sylvester Ahola (tp)
W81816B OK 40960. I FELL HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE (vocal)
-PaE R3499
W81817A OK 40941. HOW LONG HAS THIS BEEN GOING ON? (vocal)
-PaE R3498
note: OK 40941 and 40960 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE R3498 and R3499 as SAM LANIN'S ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS

W81843 OK 40945. AWOKE MY SOUVENIRS
W81844B OK 40945. AWAY DOWN SOUTH IN HEAVEN (vocal)
-PaE R3528
W81845B OK 40960. WHO KNOWS? (vocal)
-PaE R3528
note: OK 40945 as JUSTIN RING'S OKEH ORCHESTRA;
OK 40960 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE R3528 as SAM LANIN'S ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS

*-- Nichols doubtful, possibly McConville
W81917 OK 40953. MARIANETTE (vocal duet) waltz
-PaE E8001
W81918B OK 40953. THERE'S A RICKETY RACKETY SHACK (vocal duet)
-PaE R3499
W81919B OK 40967. WHEN YOU'RE WITH SOMEBODY ELSE (vocal duet)
-PaE R139
note: OK 40953 as BILLY HAYS AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
OK 40967 as BENNY MEROFF AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
PaE R3499 as SAM LANIN'S ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS;
PaE E8001 as WILL PERRY'S ORCHESTRA

*-- no Nichols heard
W81930A OK 40977. THE MAN I LOVE (vocal)
-PaE R3527, PaG A4534
W81931B OK 40972. THE SUNRISE (vocal)
W81932A OK 40977. LET A SMILE BE YOUR UMBRELLA (vocal)
-PaE R3551, OAG 04062
note: OK 40972 as JUSTIN RING'S OKEH ORCHESTRA;
PaE R3551 as ROOF GARDEN ORCHESTRA

Nichols present
W81956A OK 40972. MY OHIO HOME (vocal)
-PaE R124
W81957B OK 41003. I'VE BEEN LONGING FOR A GIRL LIKE YOU (vocal)
-PaE R140
W81958A OK 41005. WHAT A WONDERFUL WEDDING THAT WILL BE (vocal)
-PaE R140
note: OK 40972 as JUSTIN RING'S OKEH ORCHESTRA;
OK 41003 as NEW YORK SYNOPATORS

Nichols present
W400049 OK 40978. SAY SO! (vocal)
W400050 OK 40978. OH GEE! - OH JOY! (vocal)
W400051C OK 40992. OHLOE (vocal)
-PaE R139, PaAu A2456
note: OK 40978 as OKEH MELODIANS;
OK 40992 as GOTHAM TROUBADOURS

W400079B OK 40990. TOGETHER waltz (vocal)
-OK 18289, PaE R104, Ariel 4301, PaAu A2454, OAG A221086
W400080B OK 40990. RAMONA waltz (vocal)
-OK 18289, PaE R158, E8063, PaAu A2454, PaG A4545, B12642, OAG /O4072, A189114, A189150, Odisp M64
W400081C OK 40991. THERE MUST BE A SILVER LINING (vocal)
-PaE R104, PaAu A2455, OAG A221095
note: OK 40991 as JUSTIN RING'S OKEH ORCHESTRA;
Ariel 4301 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA;
PaE E8063 as THE MERTON ORCHESTRA

W400084A OK 40996. MY MIAMI MOON (Noel Taylor, vocal)
-PaE E8024, OAG 04054
W400085B OK 40996. I'M ALWAYS SMILING (Noel Taylor, vocal)
-PaE E8024, OAG 04054
W400086B OK 41002. I JUST ROLL ALONG (Noel Taylor, vocal)
-PaE R158, OAG A221095
note: OK 40996 and OAG 04054 as BILLY HAYS AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
OK 41002 as OKEH MELODIANS;
PaE E8024 as WILL PERRY AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Not Nichols
W400094A OK 40992. SUNSHINE (vocal)
-PaE R103, PaAu A2456, OAG A189127
W400095B OK 41027. YOU'D RATHER FORGET THAN FORGIVE waltz (vocal)
-PaE E8036
note: OK 40992 as GOTHAM TROUBADOURS;
OK 41027 as JUSTIN RING'S OKEH ORCHESTRA;
PaE E8036 as WILL PERRY'S ORCHESTRA

W400822B OK 41051. SWEET SUE - JUST YOU (vocal)
-PaE R179, PaAu A2497, OAG A189168
W400823B OK 41031. SWEET SUE - JUST YOU (vocal)
-PaE R179, PaAu A2497, OAG A189168
W400824 OK 41027. IN MY BOUQUET OF MEMORIES
-PaE R199, OAG A189168
W400825 OK 41027. ALL DAY LONG
note: OK 41027 as JUSTIN RING'S OKEH ORCHESTRA

Nichols' presence possible
W400848B OK 41038. I'D RATHER CRY OVER YOU (vocal)
-PaE R199, Ariel 4299
W400849B OK unrel. I'M RIDING TO GLORY (WITH A GLORIOUS GIRL) (vocal)
-PaE R180
W400850B OK 41038. GET OUT AND GET UNDER THE MOON (vocal)
-PaE R179, PaAu A2549
note: OK 41038 as BILLY HAYS AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
Ariel 4299 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA

W400775C OK 41063. SORRY FOR ME (vocal trio)
-PaAu A2554, PaG A4548, OAG 04075, A189156
W400776B OK 41063. DON'T KEEP ME IN THE DARK, BRIGHT EYES (vocal trio)
-PaE R214, PaG A4548, OAG 04075, A189158

not Nichols
W400820B OK 41079. TOO BUSY! (vocal trio)
-PaE R217
W400821B OK 41079. DARLING (vocal)
-PaE R227, OAG A189186
W400822B OK 41066. HAPPY GO LUCKY LANE (vocal)
-PaE E8150
W400825 OK 41074. SWEETHEART LANE (vocal)
-PaE E8082
note: OK 41079 (W400820B only) as BENNY MEROFF AND HIS ORCH;
OK 41066 as HARRY MESER'S JAZZ PILOTS;
OK 41074 as BILLY HAYS AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
PaE R217 as ROOF GARDEN ORCHESTRA;
PaE E8150 as WILL PERRY'S ORCHESTRA;
PaE E8082 as HARRY MESER'S ORCHESTRA

no Nichols heard
W41055A OK 41097. TEN LITTLE MILLS FROM TOWN (vocal trio)
-PaE R214, OAG 193232
W41054A OK 41097. IF YOU DON'T LOVE ME (vocal trio)
-PaE E8114
W41055B OK 41091. WHY? (DO I LOVE YOU LIKE I DO) (vocal)
-PaE E8114
note: OK 41091 as BILLY HAYS AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
PaE E8114 as SOUTHERN MELODY ARTISTS

W411480 OK 41120. ROSES OF YESTERDAY (vocal)
-PaE R297, Ariel 4552, PaG A4553, OAG 04090, A189185
W41149A OK 41120. JUMPING JACK (Rube Bloom featured on Piano)
-PaE E8138, PaG A4553, OAG 04090, A189185
note: Ariel 4552 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA;
PaE E8138 as PARLOPHONE NOVELTY ORCHESTRA

December 22, 1927
W401299B OK 41162. SWEET DREAMS (Seger Ellis, vocal)
-PaAu A2865
W401300B OK 41146. SORERDAY, SOREREBE (WE'LL MEET AGAIN) (Seger Ellis, vocal) waltz.
-PaE R296, PaAu A2870, OAG A189218
W401301B OK 41146. PARADISE (Seger Ellis, vocal) waltz
-PaE R419, Ariel 4429, OAG A189218
note: OK 41182 as NEW YORK SYNOPATORS;
Ariel 4429 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA

January 25, 1928
W401428B OK 41159. SWEETHEARTS ON PARADE (vocal)
-PaE R296, PaG R12734, OAG A189211
W401427C OK 41159. EV'RYBODY LOVES YOU (vocal)
W401428A OK 41182. DREAMING OF THE DAY
note: OK 41182 as NEW YORK SYNOPATORS

January 25, 1929
W401555B OK 41226. I'M CRAZY OVER YOU (Bing Crosby, vocal)
-OAG 0NY41228, PaE R3148, PaAu A2747, ODP 193314
W401556B OK 41226. SUSIANN (Bing Crosby, vocal)
-OAG 0NY41228, PaE R339, PaAu A2790, Ariel 24564, OAG A221112, /Odit 0-10094
W401557C OK 41188. IF I HAD YOU (Bing Crosby, vocal)
-PaE R3148, PaAu A2773, OAG A189254
note: OAG 0NY41228 as EDDIE CONDON'S ORCHESTRA;
PaE R3148 as WILL PERRY'S ORCHESTRA;
Ariel 24564 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA;
W401556B and W401557C were also issued on English Parlophone PMC7008, a 12" long play record

March 22, 1929
W401734B OK 41264. THE ONE THAT I LOVE LOVES ME (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-PaE R401, OAG 193356
W401735B OK 41215. THE WEDDING OF THE PAINTED DOLL
-PaE R367, PaAu A2775, PaG A4572
W401736C OK 41215. THE TOYMAKER'S DREAM (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-PaE R367, PaAu A2775, PaG A4572, B12787, OAG A189251
note: OK 41264 as NEW YORK SYNOPATORS

May 17, 1929
W401896A OK 41264. NOW I'M IN LOVE (vocal)
-PaE R401, PaAu A2658
W401897A OK 41257. WHEN MY DREAMS COME TRUE (vocal)
-PaE R418, PaG R12841, OAG A189228
W401898B OK 41257. THIS IS HEAVEN
-PaE R418, PaG R12841, OAG A189228

January 15, 1930
W403627A OK 41366. BLUE IS THE NIGHT (vocal)
-PaE BNY34035, OAG 0NY36037, PaE R625, PaAu A2965, OAG A189323, A22-
W490031 OK unrel. BLUE IS THE NIGHT
-PaE BNY34035, OAG 0NY36035
W403628A OK 41564. TEA FOR TWO (vocal)
-PaE BNY34038, OAG 0NY36038, PaE R605, PaAu A2968, OAG A189315, A22-
W490032 OK unrel. TEA FOR TWO
-PaE BNY34031, OAG 0NY36036
W403629A OK 41564. I WANT TO BE HAPPY (vocal)
-PaE BNY34035, OAG 0NY36036, PaE R605, PaAu A2968, OAG A189315, A22-
W490033 OK unrel. I WANT TO BE HAPPY
-PaE BNY 34030, OAG 0NY36036
note: all American Parlophone as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA

February 25, 1930
W403769C OK 41365. WHEN I'M LOOKING AT YOU (vocal)
-PaE BNY34044, OAG 0NY36050, PaE R690, PaAu A3034
W403770B OK 41365. MONA (vocal)
-PaE BNY34044, OAG 0NY36050, PaE R690, PaAu A3034
W403771B OK 41363. COOKING BREAKFAST FOR THE ONE I LOVE (Annette Hanshaw, vocal)
-PaE R674, PaAu A3014
note: PaE BNY34044 as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA;
PaE R6310 as THE MOUNTAINEER SERENADERS

April 15, 1930
W403957B OK unrel. DARK NIGHT (vocal)
-PaE BNY34063, OAG 0NY36070, PaE R725, OAG A221285
W403958A OK unrel. SANTIAGO (vocal)
-PaE BNY34062, OAG 0NY36068, PaE R725, OAG A221283, Ariel 4606
W490060 OK unrel. SANTIAGO
-PaE BNY34066, OAG 0NY36072
W403959 OK unrel. INTO MY HEART (vocal)
-PaE BNY34069, OAG 0NY36077, PaE R726, OAG A221284
W490061 OK unrel. INTO MY HEART
-PaE BNY34071, OAG 0NY36078
note: all American Parlophone as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA
Ariel 4606 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA

June 9, 1930
W404214C OK unrel. LIVE AND LOVE TODAY (Scrappy Lambert, vocal)
-PaE BNY34104, OAG 0NY36112, PaE R741
W404215B OK unrel. SEEMS TO ME (Scrappy Lambert, vocal)
-PaE BNY34105, OAG 0NY36112, PaE R741
W404216B OK unrel. ROLLIN' DOWN THE RIVER (Scrappy Lambert, vocal)
-PaE BNY34104, OAG 0NY36113, PaE R742, B5194
note: PaE BNY34104 and BNY34105 as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA

July 11, 1930
W404282B OK unrel. I WONDER HOW IT FEELS (Scrappy Lambert, vocal)
-PaE BNY34114, OAG 0NY36122, PaE R768
W400413-1 Ha 1197H. I WONDER HOW IT FEELS ("Webster Moore," vocal)
-Ve 2197V, D1 3197C
W404263B OK unrel. LITTLE WHITE LIES (Scrappy Lambert, vocal)
-PaE BNY34115, OAG 0NY36122, PaE R743, Ariel 24652
W404264B OK unrel. UNDER THE MOON IT'S YOU (Scrappy Lambert, vocal)
-PaE BNY34114, OAG 0NY36123, PaE R768
note: PaE BNY34114 and BNY34115 as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA;
He 1197H, Ve 2197V and D1 3197C as WEBSTER MOORE AND HIS HIGH HATTERS
Ariel 24652 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA

W404282B OK unrel. GOOD EVENIN' (vocal)
-Pa PNY34122, Od ONY36129, PaE R796
(W100415-) Ha 1202H. GOOD EVENIN' (vocal)
-Ve 2202V, D1 3202G
W404285 OK unrel. TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY (vocal)
-Pa PNY34123, Od ONY36130, PaE R764, PaAu A5129, OdG A22130F
(W100416-) Ha 1202H. TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY (vocal)
-Ve 2202V, D1 3202G
W404284B OK unrel. WHY AM I SO ROMANTIC? (vocal)
-Pa PNY34123, Od ONY36129, PaE R798
(W100417-) Ha 1200H. WHY AM I SO ROMANTIC? (vocal)
-Ve 2202V, D1 3202G, Lobby 2027P
note: Pa PNY34122, PNY34123 as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA;
Ha 1202H, D1 3202G as FRANK AUBURN AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
Ve 2202V as RUDY MARLOWE AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
Ha 1200H, Ve 2202V, D1 3202G as WALLY EDWARDS AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
Lobby 2027P as THE PARAMOUNTERS
W150871-2 Co 2517D. THREE LITTLE WORDS (vocal)
-CoE C2205
W195124- Co unrel. THREE LITTLE WORDS
(W100429-1) Ha 1232H. THREE LITTLE WORDS
-Ve 2232V, D1 3232G, Cl 5105C
W150872- Co 2517D. CAN THIS BE LOVE? (vocal)
W404467B OK unrel. IT'S A GREAT LIFE (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Pa PNY34142, Od ONY36148, PaE R867, OdG A221356
(W100430-) Ha 1254H. IT'S A GREAT LIFE (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Ve 2234V, D1 3234G
W404468B OK unrel. WHEN KENTUCKY RIDES THE WORLD GOOD MORNING (Smith Ballew, voo)
-Pa PNY34140, Od ONY36149, PaE R823
W404469B OK unrel. I'M PROUD OF YOU (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Pa PNY34145, Od ONY36152, PaE R832, Ariel 24671
W404470 OK unrel. SATAN'S HOLIDAY (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Pa PNY34144, Od ONY36152
(W100441-) Ha 1248H. SATAN'S HOLIDAY (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Ve 2248V
note: Co 2517D and CoE C2205 as IPANA TROUBADOURS;
Ha 1232H, Ve 2232V, D1 3232G and Cl 5105C as RUDY MAR-
LOWE AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
Pa PNY34140, PNY34142, PNY34144 and PNY34145 as THE
DEAUVILLE SYNCOPIATORS;
Od ONY36148, ONY36149 and ONY36152 as NEW YORK SYNCO-
PIATORS;
Ha 1234V, Ve 2234V and D1 3234G as FRANK AUBURN AND
HIS ORCHESTRA;
Ha 1248H and Ve 2248V as CHESTER LEIGHTON AND HIS
SYNCOPIATORS;
Ariel 24671 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA;
on Co and Ha etc issues, vocalist either un-named or,
possibly, under pseudonyma
W404506B OK unrel. OH WHY (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Pa PNY34147, Od ONY36155, PaE R844, PaAu A5117
W404509B OK unrel. MY IDEAL (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Pa PNY34148, Od ONY36154, PaE R867, Ariel 24690, OdG A221356
(W100438-) Ha 1240H. MY IDEAL (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Ve 2240V, 2287V, D1 3240G, Cl 5178C
W404510 OK unrel. YOU'RE SIMPLY DELISH (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Pa PNY34146, Od ONY36154, PaE R832
(W100463-) Ha 1265H. YOU'RE SIMPLY DELISH (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Ve 2265V
W404511 OK unrel. IF I KNEW YOU BETTER (Smith Ballew, vocal)
-Pa PNY34148, Od ONY36155, PaE R891
note: all American Parlophones as ALBERT MASON'S O'CHESTRA;
Ha 1240H, Ve 2240V, D1 3240G as FRANK AUBURN AND HIS
ORCHESTRA;
Ha 1265H, Ve 2265V, 2267V, Cl 5178C as LLOYD KEATING'S
MUSIG;
Ariel 24690 as ARIEL DANCE ORCHESTRA;
on Ha etc issues, vocalist either un-named or under
pseudonym(a) - "Tom Frawley" on Ve 2267V and Cl 5178C
PaE R891 as NEW YORK SYNCOPIATORS
W404574B OK unrel. CRYING MYSELF TO SLEEP (Vocal)
-Pa PNY34161, Od ONY36169, PaAu A5147
(W100448-) Ha 1258H. CRYING MYSELF TO SLEEP (vocal)
-Cl 5191C, ReAu G20968
W404575 OK unrel. I'M UP ON A MOUNTAIN (vocal)
-Pa PNY34185, Od ONY36169
(W100481-) Ha 1264H. I'M UP ON A MOUNTAIN (vocal)
-Cl 5201C
W404576 OK unrel. WOND'RING (vocal)
-Pa PNY34185, Od ONY36170
(W100459-) Ha 1263H. WOND'RING (vocal)
-Ve 2279V, Cl 5203C
W404577 OK unrel. WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN (vocal)
-Pa PNY34162, Od ONY36170
(W100447-) Ha 1255H. WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN (vocal)
-Ve 2265V, Cl 5190C
W404578B OK unrel. TEARS waltz (vocal)
-Pa PNY34165, Od ONY36176, PaE R856, PaAu A5159
(W100449-) Ha 1258H. TEARS waltz (vocal)
-Ve 2262V, Cl 5193C, ReAu G20968
note: all American Parlophones as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA;
Od ONY36170 as RHYTHM KINGS;
all Harmony, Velvet Tones, Clarions, Australian Par-
lophones and Australian Regal as SAM LANIN AND HIS OR-
CHESTRA
W404814 OK unrel. JUST A GIGOLO (vocal)
(W490035) OK unrel. JUST A GIGOLO (vocal)
-Pa PNY34179, Od ONY36187

August 8, 1930

October 10, 1930

October 24, 1930

December 18, 1930

January 26, 1931

(W100474-) Ha 1274H. JUST A GIGOLO (vocal)
-Ve 2298V, Cl 5223C
W404815B OK 41491. IT'S A LONESOME OLD TOWN (vocal)
-Pa PNY34175, Od ONY36182, PaAu A5146
(W100473-) Ha 1275H. IT'S A LONESOME OLD TOWN (vocal)
-Ve 2301V, Cl 5222C
W404816 OK unrel. HEARTACHES (vocal)
-Pa PNY34187, Od ONY36184
(W100481-) Ha 1279H. HEARTACHES (vocal)
-Ve 2309V, Cl 5244C
W404817A OK unrel. WHEN YOU WERE THE BLOSSOM OF BUTTERCUP LANE (vocal)
-Pa PNY34177, Od ONY36184, PaE R895, PaAu A5155
(W100479-) Ha 1277H. WHEN YOU WERE THE BLOSSOM OF BUTTERCUP LANE (vocal)
W404618A OK unrel. 99 OUT OF A HUNDRED (vocal)
-Pa PNY34175, Od ONY36185, PaE R894, PaAu A5146, OdG A221356
(W100471-) Ha 1275H. 99 OUT OF A HUNDRED (vocal)
-Ve 2299V, Cl 5220C
W404819A OK unrel. KEEP A SONG IN YOUR SOUL (vocal)
-Pa PNY34174, Od ONY36183, PaE R893
(W100475-) Ha 1274H. KEEP A SONG IN YOUR SOUL (vocal)
note: Pa PNY34174 and PNY34175 as ALBERT MASON'S ORCHESTRA;
Pa PNY34176, PNY34177 and PNY34179 as GEORGE WELLS
HIS ORCHESTRA;
Od ONY36184 and ONY36187 as TON ROCK AND HIS ORCHE-
STRA;
OK 41491 as BUDDY CAMPBELL AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
Ha 1274H, Ve 2296V and Cl 5223C as LLOYD KEATING'S M
Ha 1277H, 1279H, Ve 2309V and Cl 5244C as CHESTER I
TON AND HIS SYNCOPIATORS;
Ha 1275H, Ve 2299V, 2301V, Cl 5220C and 5222C as SA
LANIN AND HIS ORCHESTRA
W404868A OK 41483. WHEN YOUR LOVER HAS GONE (vocal)
-Pa PNY34192, Od ONY36197, PaE R865
(W404869A) OK 41483. YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TELL ME (vocal)
-Pa PNY34192, Od ONY36198
note: Pa PNY34192 as THE DEAUVILLE SYNCOPIATORS;
Od ONY36197 as ED LOYD AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
Od ONY36198 as RAY SHELLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA;
these two sides are renumbered masters from a Harma-
cession; respectively, they are W151379-2, Ha 1297H,
Ve 2329V, Cl 5283C as ROY CARROLL AND HIS SANDS POIN
ORCHESTRA (also on Ariel 24747 as ANIEL DANCE ORCHE-
and W151380- , Ha 1297H, Ve 2328V, Cl 5282C as ROY
CARROLL AND HIS SANDS POINT ORCHESTRA;
also recorded, masters W151376/61/62/63 with vocals,
issued on Ha, Ve, Cl as SAM LANIN AND HIS ORCHESTRA
masters W495041/42/43/47 without vocals, all issued
Pa PNY and Od ONY under various pseudonyms

APPENDIX

Many OKeh masters were released under Sam Lanin's name when, in fact, they were
other orchestras. Most of these were on the English Parlophone label but a few
peared on both American and German Odeon. The listing which follows is as compl
as we can make it and is in chronological order with the original issue and art
or orchestra name in brackets after the tune title.

The Ted Wallace sides are, of course, by Ed Kirkeby groups and The Travelers by
Dorsey Brothers; details will be found in Brian Rust's "Jazz Records. 1897-1931"
will those of the Fred Rich sessions.

(no Nichols heard on these)
It is just possible that masters W81256 and W81257 are really by a Sam Lanin gro
just as the Parlophones lead one to believe; the use of the label name "The Texas
for a Lanin side occurs in the October 4, 1927, session (see the main listing).
it is often difficult to decide whether or not a session is by any one leader al
and it sometimes seems obvious that sides were recorded for release by various m
each being nominally the leader or director. Consider the three sides recorded i
mediately after the two above:

W81258C OK unrel. HIGHWAYS ARE HAPPY WAYS (vocal)
-PaE E8951, PaG E12572
W81259B OK 40864. A NIGHT IN JUNE (S-die Green, vocal)
-PaE E3416
W81260C OK 40864. IT WAS ONLY A SUNSHOWER (vocal)
-PaE E8951, PaG E12572

The English and German Parlophones are labelled THE MELODY SHEIKS for the first
last of these and this name is very much a Lanin one as the main listing shows. H
ever, the OKeh is labelled as being by MIKE MARKEK'S ORCHESTRA and E3416 as by MI
MARKEK'S FIRST FOUR HUNDRED ORCHESTRA.

Similarly, label names may well have been used for groups directed by different
ders or contractors; examples abound throughout the listing from October, 1927.
label name "Okah Melodians" is commonly used for Lanin sides but we cannot be sur
that all issues under this name are by him. Here are two more sessions which may
just rightfully belong in the main listing:

OKeh MELODIANS: **-- no Nichols heard
W400163B OK 41017. RAIN OR SHINE (vocal)
W400164B OK 41017. FOREVER AND EVER (vocal)

March 22, 1931

W400673B OK 41074. MY ANGEL waltz (vocal)
-PaE E8066
W400674A OK 41045. SO DEAR waltz (vocal)
-PaE E8066
W400675C OK 41045. WAS IT A DREAM? waltz (vocal)
-PaE E8051

May 16, 1931

note: PaE E8051 as COMPETITION ORCHESTRA;
PaE E8066 as WILL PERRY'S ORCHESTRA

We would particularly like to hear from anyone owning a copy of OK 41017 or any r
issue as we know nothing beyond the basic details given above.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18 Column

BEFORE THE INTERMISSION

At the close of the 1930's the Swing Era was at its peak. Red
Nichols had organized a group of young musicians into a precision
unit. Their abilities could be heard on Bluebird recordings. They
were waiting for the big break that would vault them to the top of
public popularity ---- along with the reigning kings such as Benny
Goodman, Artie Shaw, and the Dorseys who received their early
training under the baton of Nichols some 10-15 years earlier.

1940

The year 1940 was to be 'IT'. The band was booked for a lengthy
stay in the "Big Apple" with nightly network radio time from the
Famous Door in NYC. They had a contract to record for Okeh.
Prosperity was just down the road. Delays in the opening date, how-
ever, kept the band on the road longer than anticipated. Discontent
was brewing.

Although critics and customers lauded the Pennies while at the
Famous Door, the spot closed while the band was on the job. When
the spot failed to pay off, friction increased between Red and his
handlers, The Frederick Brothers Agency. Again the band had to
take to the road. Before leaving New York the Famous Door band
recorded four tunes for Okeh on June 11, 1940. The personnel was:

March 2,

Red Nichols, J. Doug Wood, Hilton Brockman (tp), Al Mastren
Jack Knaus (tb), Conn Humphrey, Heinie Beau, Bobby Jones,
Ray Schultz (saxes), Bill Maxted (p), Merritt Lamb (g),
Frank Ray (b), Harry Jaeger (dm & Vo). Another vocalist with
the band was Bill Darnell, but he did not appear on this
recording session.

When the band left New York, Joe Andre (ozzi) replaced Humphrey
on lead alto, Joe Florentine (tp) took Brockman's chair, and Verne
Yonkers (tb) came in for Mastren. Vocalist Bill Darnell, who had
been with Red for over three years, joined Al Kavelin's band at this
time; Lou Valero (Don Cornell) and Blanche LaBow were added to
help on vocals. The group stayed together until a Sunday in August
1940 when Red disbanded at the conclusion of an engagement at
Eastwood Gardens, Detroit.

The Detroit Break Up

Red was fed up with the mechanics of the business. He said he
planned to lay over a few months in Detroit. DOWN BEAT was
quick to headline "NICHOLS SHORT-CHANGED US! - Pennies Shout
as Band Splits". A few days later Nichols provided enough money
for each of the boys to go where he wanted to go.

DOWN BEAT reported, "Contract trouble with Fredetick Bros.
brought AFM proxy Petrillo into the picture. He ordered Red to fill
a couple of one-nighters the agency had contracted for him "or else".
Red filled them, then took his wife and youngster to the west coast,
where he intends to get away from it all for three months." Actually
Red and his wife returned to New York to wind up some business.



At the Roco Hotel Roof, Houston Texas, July 1940 - the
featured "Pennies" from Red Nichols' Okeh. 1 to r surrounding
Red, Bobby Jones (ts), Frank Ray (b), Billy Maxted (p), Harry
Jaeger (dm), Heinie Beau (ol)

Although Nichols was to operate out of Chicago, he maintained
two farflung homes --- one in Forest Hills, L. I., New York and
another in San Leandro, California. Red still had part of a 7-year
contract with the Frederick Brothers Agency to fulfill. Unreliable
bookings, last minute changes, etc. were some of the reasons for
the unhappy association with the agent.

THE NEW BAND

By December 1940, Red had assembled a band to play several
weeks at the Eagles Ballroom in Milwaukee, Wis. During this
engagement the band played matinees from noon to 2:00 PM and
evenings from 9-1:00 AM and broadcasted through WTMJ. About
December 20, Heinie Beau, passing through town on a one-nighter
with Tommy Dorsey's band, heard Red at the Eagles and introduced
his brother-in-law, Rollie Culver, to Red. Rollie was soon to be-
come the Pennies' regular drummer until the end, nearly a 25-year
span.

The exact dates and personnel of Red's Eagles band are not known
to me. Autographs on December 29 show the following were in Red's
band:

Mickey DeTracey (tp), Vernon Yonkers (tb), Rae DeGeer and
Ray Schultz (saxes), John Hynda (p), Bob Harrington (dm),
Lorraine Barre (vo)

1941

By this time the National Broadcasting Company had informed
bandleaders: "On December 31, 1940, the license agreements
between NBC and ASCAP expires, ASCAP has refused to renew them
except on terms which are so onerous that we have concluded that
we cannot accept them. Without a license it will be necessary for
NBC to discontinue playing ASCAP music commencing with the first
of next year". Another business headache!

Nichols organized the 1941 version of his Pennies in Chicago.
The first rehearsal was called for 2:00 PM Saturday, January 25, in a
hall on Wilson Ave. Their first engagement was a theater stage
show in Gary, Ind. After that they rehearsed some more before
going on the road January 31. They had a chartered Greyhound bus
for the series of one-nighters which followed. Playing for Nichols
were:

Hilton Brockman, Edward "Wilkie" Lavin (tp), Tommy J. King
(Vasilaro), William F. "Bill" Siegel (tb), Jack Gaylo (Gagliano)
(lead alto), Ray Schultz (tenor), Lester Pinter (Penner) (3rd alto),
Bill Maxted (p); William R. "Bill" Huntington (g), Homer
Bennett (b), Roland Pierce "Rollie" Culver (dm), Lorraine
Barre (Barrie) (vocalist).

FALSE HOPES

Booking agent problems continued. A 16-week engagement
starting March 15 at Armonk, N. Y., as announced in the trade
journals, never materialized. Early in April the band rested a week
in Atlantic City, N.J. when an engagement fell through because the
agent forgot to advertise it.

In mid-April Red's 15-piece band opened at the Boston Raymor
Ballroom. Linda Keene, brunet songstress, was featured heavily.
Jimmy Pupa (tp), Bill Tresson (tb), and Rae DeGeer (2nd tenor)
were added. Jack Gaylo was inducted into the service by his Chica-
go draft board and the lead alto chair was taken by Joe Andre who
quit a radio job in Providence, R.I. to rejoin Nichols. During the
Boston stint, Penny Parker from Vincent Lopez's orchestra replaced
Linda Keene who joined Muggsy Spanier's group. Miss Parker
changed her name to PENNY BANKS so that it would go with Red
NICKELS.

MORE PROBLEMS

Then Bill Maxted was rushed to a hospital with a ruptured appen-
dix; Danny Hurd (p) joined. In May, travelling at Indiantown Gap,
Pa., the Nichols band bus was in a head-on crash, fortunately no
one was injured seriously. On May 22, 1941, while playing a 5-
week stay at Walled Lake, Mich., Hurd and Homer Bennett left;
Maxted and Frank Ray returned to the band. On June 5 Eddie Lavin
(tp) was drafted. They used substitutes, possibly including Ralph
Larson of Chicago, until Joe Triscari filled the chair.

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AFTER THE FERMATA

Tragedy struck Red Nichols, shipyard worker. On June 6, 1943, his daughter was taken to the hospital. She was diagnosed as incurable. But faith and determination in the small Nichols family worked miracles. Healing set in.

Later in the year Red Nichols was getting back into shape. The Alameda (Calif.) Times Star reported this in their October 14 edition:

"A modern Pied Piper today volunteered to rid Albany (Calif.) of rats by luring them into San Francisco Bay with music literally "out of this world".

Red Nichols, cornetist of "Five Pennies" fame, lives down the road from Albany, offered his services to the neighboring town and set 5:30 PM today, in the middle of main street, for the opening blast.

Red: "The original Pied Piper blew three shrill notes. I quote eminent psychologists. Rats respond to high-pitched sounds, but don't hear low ones at all. I propose to hit a high note with overtones in the superaudible range to get those rats that steal our chickens and raise the dickens."

"I'll give them a come-hither note that'll make them want to do a May pole dance. Then I'll pipe them on down the avenue without a single thing to do, but lead the darned rats away and let them drown in Frisco Bay."

"... he was sure he would hit the mating call in harmonics. "If they don't come hither when I blow come-hither, I'll blow so loud I'll convulse them to death."

CASA LOMA

Milton Benny writing in *Metronome* told the story: "Early in 1944, Cork O'Keefe offered Red a job with the Casa Loma band, O'Keefe and Glen Gray promised him a 'band within the band' and plenty of solo spots with the full ensemble. Nichols trained east. For six dreary months he sat in the Casa Loma brass section playing monotonous 4th trumpet parts. The 'band within a band' never came; Gray somehow never found time to get it started."

However, Red's beautiful tones and phrasing can be heard on the Glen Gray Deccas of the period. Red is also heard on several transcriptions made by the band, including a 'Memorial to Bix' on VD 774. All this notwithstanding the report on the Jump LP (JL-3) liner notes which says:

A young trumpet player in the Glen Gray band gave Red this advise: You gotta get with it. You're behind the times. Be smart. Sell the cornet and buy a trumpet. Tune it a shade flat and play just a little back of the beat. Get modern, Red!

BIRTHDAY GIFT

Mrs. Nichols told Red by phone she had purchased his birthday present --- a home in Los Angeles. The doctors had suggested the warmer climate would be good for his daughter. That was May B, 1944.

Red left Casa Loma on June 28, 1944 and was passing through Chicago on his way to the west coast. Red was staying at the Sherman Hotel and met Vic Engle at the Croydon Hotel by chance. They phoned John Steiner to ask 'what's happening?' On a quick impulse they set up a recording date. They used Jack Gardner because they could get his piano and room for the job --- it took place at 503 W. Aldine St. on June 30. It was a tentative deal, but John liked the results immediately and paid off. That trio never worked together before or after the two hours before Red's plane left for the coast.

HAYWOOD HOTEL

Now Red had to wait three months to get back into the Union, L. A. made his fifth Union membership. By September the New Pennies began a 3-month job at the Haywood Hotel in downtown Los Angeles, and Red began his six month work out period for his Union card. The opening night band was:

Red Nichols (c), George Potter (cl), Don Lodice (ts),
Milt Raskin (p), Gene England (b), Howard Robbins (dm)

Since Red was not formally a member of Local 47 in L. A. yet, he could not contract the job himself. He asked Drew Page, then playing with Wingy Mannone, to be the contractor. Wingy would not let Drew go so someone else did the honors. When the band opened, Wingy said for Drew to go ahead and play with Red. After a day or two Page replaced Potter. Early in the job Earl Sturgis became fitted to the piano stool. Just before they closed, Page left to join Freddy Martin; a clarinetist by the name of Hartwood finished the engagement.

About this time Dave Dexter, Jr. got the Pennies back on wax --- both transcriptions and for Capitol.

Before Xmas the Pennies moved to Topsy's Club in Southgate and stayed until mid-April 1945. Here's the line-up:

Red Nichols (c), Johnny Schmidt (cl), Don Lodice (ts),
Earl Sturgis (p), Gene England (b), Ted Tillman (dm)

On May 3, 1945, Red & Pennies Heinie Beau (cl), Herbie Haymer (ts), Paul Lee (p), and Thurman Teague (b) did a one-nighter at the El Morocco Club in Hollywood at 1551 N. Vine St. The band was really great and the management wanted the band steady. Rollie Culver (dm) was playing with Dale Cross' band at the Morocco and stayed on when Red came in later in May.

L. A. BASED

From the until 1948 the Pennies played mostly at the Morocco. Then till 1951 they were featured at the Hangover Club. With yearly excursions to the northwest, the L. A. area remained home. However, there were frequent jobs in San Francisco, Phoenix, Reno, and Las Vegas. Mike Lyman's, Sarnes, Zebra Room of the Sheraton West, and Marineland were some of the places where the Nichols groups had long or repeated stays. By 1959 they ventured east to NYC and two very successful stops at the Roundtable.

By the 1960's the Nichols hom was available on Capitol LP's, could be heard periodically on local TV plus several top flight network shows, in a film based on his life, on transcriptions and tele-scriptions, and in person at leading niteries across this great land of ours. The notes were flying high.

The in-person version ended at the Top of The Mint in Las Vegas, June 28, 1965.



Courtesy of Duncan P. Schiedt



Then there is a DOWNBEAT PROGRAM H-7-127 transcription by Red Nichols and His Five Pennies, probably dating around 1945, produced in Los Angeles, California, by Armed Forces Radio for servicemen. The production would have the listener believe the Pennies were in a studio cutting the session. Only Red himself was in the studio with an announcer; the tunes they introduced actually were MacGregor ET's.

Contents of Program	Tune from Mac ET
Part of "The Penny Jumps" used as theme	Mac 6
It Had To Be You - Wynne Fair(vo)	Mac 212
Dancing on the Ceiling - Helen Graeco(vo)	Mac 614
Together	Mac 107
You Got Me Where You Want Me - Wynne Fair(vo)	Mac 580
Melancholy Baby - featuring Herbie Haymer	Mac 113
Let Me Dream	Mac 614
Waiting - Helen Graeco(vo)	Mac 6
Rose Room	Mac 614

Here are the 'fishy' aspects of this program. Red never used "The Penny Jumps" as a theme. Then too, since Red employed a small group, he would hardly use two different gal vocalists on the same date.

Red hesitates considerably on introducing the Pennies before "Dancing on the Ceiling" as:

Earl Sturgis(p), Herbie MacHaymer(ts), Johnny Schmidt(ol), Rollie Culver(dm) and Gene Englund(b).

This is almost certainly not the correct line-up. Rollie Culver, for example, joined after Helen Graeco sang with the group; by this time other personnel changes had taken place.

Below are listed all the MacGregor issues known to me. The listing apparently still has some omissions. Apparently many of these were also issued by United Transcribed System of Toronto, Hollywood, and New York.

BMI 6 (MM 0668)

The Penny Jumps
Blue Jay
Cactus Polka - Helen Graeco(vo)
Waiting - Helen Graeco(vo)

BMI 7 (MM 0679)

Sweet And Low
You Belong To Me - Wynne Fair(vo)
Camptown Races
Midnight Blue

BMI 8 - also United 1516

Rockin' Chair
Georgia on My Mind - Wynne Fair(vo)
Parade of the Wooden Soldiers
Lazy River

BMI 19 (MM 0800) -also LB 244 and United 1651

When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again
Ida
So It Goes
Battle Hymn of the Republic

BMI 24 - also LB 293

Frenesi
Where There's You There's Me - Dottie O'Brien(vo)
Bala
All The Cats Joined In - Dottie O'Brien(vo)

BMI 27 - also LB 324 and United 1730

Who If Not You - Dottie O'Brien(vo)
Waltz In C# Minor
Sleep Tight Tonight - Dottie O'Brien(vo)
Brahms Hungarian Dance

LB 107 - also United 1464

The Naughty Waltz
Together
Pennies From Heaven
Tin Roof Blues

LB 113

Love Me or Leave Me
Melancholy Baby
Things Ain't What They Used To Be

LB 127 - same as LB 614

LB 129 - same as BMI 7

LB 140 (MM 0680)

Singin' Down The Road - Wynne Fair(vo)
The Sheikie Man - Wynne Fair(vo) & Red
Wolverine Blues
She Shall Have Music

LB 141 (MM 0681) -also United 1498

Wall of the Winds
Royal Garden Blues
The Trolley Song - Wynne Fair(vo)
Whispering

LB 147 (MM 0670)

Beale St. Blues
Get Happy
At Sundown

LB 168 (MM 0636) -also United 1517

You're My Everything
Cheerful Little Earful
Come Home - Wynne Fair(vo)
Missouri Waltz

LB 202 (MM 0750)

The Very Thought of You
Love Is The Sweetest Thing
Dardanella
When My Sugar Walks Down The Street

LB 211 (MM 0760)

Easy Street
I'm On Your Waiting List - Betty Taylor(vo)
Perfidia
Stranger In Town - Betty Taylor(vo)

LB 212

It Had To Be You - Wynne Fair(vo)
If I Loved You
Little By Little
Should I

LB 244 - same as BMI 19

LB 246 (MM 0801) -also United 1650

Young Man With a Horn - Betty Taylor(vo)
Let It Snow - Betty Taylor(vo)
Stars Fell on Alabama
Personality - Betty Taylor(vo)

LB 292 (MM 0841) -also United 1688

Theme - Wall of the Wind
What Is This Thing Called Love
Over The Rainbow
Begin The Beguine
C Jam Blues

LB 293 - same as BMI 24

LB 324 - same as BMI 27

LB 326

Easter Parade
Hour of Parting
Morning Glory
Route 66 - Dottie O'Brien(vo)

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

BEFORE THE INTERMISSION (Cont'd from page 9)

The war year's demand on personnel presented another big business headache for travelling bands. Bill Huntington (g) left when they closed Walled Lake. Early in July Bill Maxted joined Will Bradley's Orch. and Gene Nelson from Minneapolis took over the piano stool. Buckman, too, was no longer with the band and Triscari took up the first trumpet book.

On August 1, 1941 the Nichols crew opened at the Melody Mill Ballroom in Riverside, on the west side of Chicago, Ill. Warren Smith (tb) was added for this engagement. They played Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, broadcasting six times weekly over WBMM of the Columbia network.

Red disbanded when they closed on September 21, 1941 and stored his PA and amplifier system upstairs at Melody Mill. When Red returned for it in 1944 with John Steiner, the equipment was gone.

THE MINNEAPOLIS BAND

Next, Nichols took over the leadership of Allyn Cassel's band from Minneapolis. All the Cassel men were taken in, with Allyn playing his usual position on 4th sax. Apparently their first location job was at the Aragon Ballroom, Houston, Texas, October 11-21, 1941. Billed as RED NICHOLS AND HIS FAMOUS 14 PIECE ORCHESTRA, Penny Banks, vocalist, opened this engagement; a week later Margaret Reed became the vocalist.

There are press reports that Nichols was playing an extended stretch at Topsy's Cafe in Hollywood, California for the remainder of the year. This I have not yet been able to verify, for it appears that one-nighters were the main fare. In January the band was touring through the Midwest on one-nighters. Red opened at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel in Columbus, Ohio on January 28, 1942. Don Plimby joined at this time and supplied the following personnel:

Red Nichols (leader & cny), Harold Moe, Russ Bodine (tp), Don Plimby, Leonard Childers (tb), Gordon Hart (alto), unknown (alto), unknown (tenor), Allyn Cassel (bar), Spanky Andrews (g), unknown (st. b.), Gubby Markson (dm), Margaret Reed (vo), Bodine & Andrews also handled vocals. Vocal Group consisted of Miss Reed, her husband Childers, Plimby and Bodine.

When the band was at the Houston Aragon, Margie Little (vo) and her husband Austin Little (tb) became friends with Red and the boys. Austin did some arranging for Red's band. Austin joined the band after they left Houston, possible when in Columbus. Closing night at the Deshler was March 7, 1942.

COMES THE INTERMISSION

March 9, 1942, Red's orchestra opened at Lantz's Merry-Go-Round in Dayton, Ohio. Margie Little was offered the vocal job and joined for this opening. The band closed at Lantz's on April 19, 1942. At this point Red closed his music books, sold the band intact to Anson Weeks, and moved to the west coast. Here he started his 'Intermission' as a shipyard worker. Actually his plans to enter a branch of the military service never materialized --- he was turned down because he needed a hernia operation.

The trade journals of the day present a confusing picture. Band routings show both the Nichols and Weeks orchestras playing different locations the remainder of April and early May. On May 8, 1942, for example, both these bands were scheduled to play a college date at Greeley, Colorado.

Who was fronting which band is not known to this writer. However, before this Anson Weeks was in an automobile crash. While he was recuperating, Don "Doc" Ragon fronted the band. When Weeks phoned Ragon to keep the band because he was taking over the Nichols outfit, the bolder "stinking deal" to the press. So at Greely we could hardly expect Ragon fronting the Weeks band with Anson waving the baton before the Nichols' crew. Let's assume the

newprint is in error again.

It's certain that Red left the business right after the Lantz' Merry-Go-Round job. The Intermission is on.

THE FIVE PENNIES PAPERBACK (Cont'd from page 14)

It's true a relative phoned Red that his daughter was dead, but on June 8, 1943 Red didn't have a police escort to speed him to the hospital.

In the hospital awaiting word of Dorothy's progress, Bobbie is quoted "You live with a man for eight years . . . Dorothy was more than eight -- from 1927 to 1943 is more than 8 years. At this point Red was yet to record "Battle Hymn of the Republic" so it was not a good seller as yet.

Red did not throw a comet off the Golden Gate bridge in his moment of deepest gloom.

Chapter 7

When Red was working in the Shipyard, he didn't have a tour lined up or a band under contract.
When Dorothy was in the hospital, Red wasn't a clown and entertainer for the other children.
Bobbie bought a house in Los Angeles on May 8, 1944 as an anniversary present for Red. She told him the news by phone for he was in New York with Glen Gray's Orch.
The elabornateness of rigging the house and play area for Dorothy's exercises was exaggerated considerably.

Chapter 8

Dorothy's 16th birthday was in 1944 -- a bit later than implied since the chapter starts, "Now America was in the war."
Details of the 16th birthday party, as well as Capt. Glenn Miller's visit to the shipyard, were mostly figments of imagination.
Red heard Glenn Miller first with Boyd Senter, not Sennet.

Chapter 9

Red's reminiscing as he listened to his old records is quite factual, but when he enters the party fiction begins -- his wife couldn't accompany him on piano and comet players can't split even a soft tip that easily.

Chapter 10

The announcement that Red and Bobbie were going to Europe in the twenties never materialized.

Chapter 11

They didn't take a weekend off to go to Los Angeles on their wedding anniversary so that episode at the Brown Derby restaurant never happened.

Chapter 12

As stated before, there was no Tony Valani in real life.
On opening night old friends and musicians were there, but not Louis Armstrong and the Pennies described in the story.

If you enjoy easy, entertaining reading "The Five Pennies" is recommended. If you haven't seen Danny Kaye's portrayal of the Nichols story on the screen, make an effort in that direction. In the past year the movie was released for TV viewing. The movie is a delightful, heartwarming, engrossing musical suitable for the entire family.

LB 580

My Ideal
It Had To Be You
You Got Me Where You Want Me - Wynne Fair(vo)

LB 614

Dancing on the Ceiling - Helen Graeco(vo)
Java Junction
Let Me Dream
Rose Room

Now here's the problem! What group made what tune on what date? Try as I might for over ten years I have not been able to get this information. I've contacted all involved, piecing data together, using the vocalists as guidelines, the dates of Heinie Beau's arrangements, and a tin ear, I offer the following discography. Remember much of it is put together on GUESSTWORK and for only those tunes I've had the opportunity to review.

* * * * *

The Pennies apparently made their first MacGregor session in early October 1944 if Drew Page recalls correctly that he made such a session.

Probable Personnel: Red Nichols(o), Drew Page(ol), Herbie Haymer(ts), Earl Sturgis(p), Gene Englund(b), Bud Combine(dm), Wynne Fair(vo).

Assuming this session had several tunes with vocals - here are two candidates with Miss Fair:

It Had To Be You -LB 212
You Got Me Where You Want Me -LB 580

Without vocals:

Theme - Wall of the Wind -LB 292
Dardanella -LB 202

The following tunes with Wynne Fair(vo) I have not heard, except "Georgia" which seems to have the personnel as given. If the clarinet player sounds like Drew Page they belong in the above group; if Heinie Beau can be singled out they were probably recorded with the Morocco Club Band of May, June, or July 1945 as follows:

Red Nichols(o), Heinie Beau(ol), Herbie Haymer(ts), Paul Leu(p), Thurman Teague(b), Rollie Culver(dm).

Tunes: Georgia on My Mind -BMI 8
You Belong To My Heart -BMI 7
Singin' Down The Road -LB 140
The Sheikie Man -LB 140
The Trolley Song -LB 141
Come Home -LB 168

Gene Englund feels that Dave Coleman was on at least one MacGregor session. This would have been late October to the end of 1944. If this is true, it could be a session without vocals, with the first group of Wynne Fair vocals, or with Helen Graeco vocals. Probable personnel follows:

Red Nichols(o), Johnny Schmidt(ol), Herbie Haymer(ts), Earl Sturgis(p), Gene Englund(b), Dave Coleman(dm).

Possible tunes with Helen Graeco(vo):

Cactus Polka -BMI 7
Waiting -BMI 7
Dancing on the Ceiling -LB 614

Without vocals:

Ida -BMI 19
Battle Hymn of the Republic -BMI 19 -Hugo Montenegro arr.
Together -LB 107
Pennies From Heaven -LB 107
The Naughty Waltz -LB 107

The tenor sax on "Ida" seems to have more of a Don Lodice flavor than Herbie Haymer.

A long time ago I was given the following "unknown" transcription data as a 'first session'. The personnel is that of Red's band playing at Topsy's. Since Coleman left in January and the tenor sax man was with the group only two weeks, the date probably is February or March 1945 for the following:

Red Nichols(o), Johnny Schmidt(ol), Ralph Roselund(ts), Earl Sturgis(p), Gene Englund(b), Ted Tillman(dm).

At Sundown -LB 147 Beau Arr. 11/23/44
The Penny Jumps -BMI 7 Beau Comp. & Arr. 11/29/44
Beale Street Blues -LB 147
Rose Room -LB 147
Get Happy -LB 147
Royal Garden Blues -LB 141

Here is a tune that may have been made early 1945 because of the timing on the Heinie Beau arrangement, but it does not seem to include Herbie Haymer(ts):

Blue Jay -BMI 6 Beau Arr. 12/6/44

Then the following was given as a second session for these "unknown" transcriptions. Timing would place this after May 1945, after the group opened at the Morocco Club:

Red Nichols(o), Heinie Beau(ol), Herbie Haymer(ts), Paul Leu(p), Thurman Teague(b), Rollie Culver(dm).

Whispering -LB 141 Russ Hoier Arr. - 1945
Java Junction -LB 614 Beau Arr. 11/25/44
Love Me or Leave Me -LB 113
Things Ain't What They Used To Be -LB 113
Melancholy Baby -LB 113
Let Me Dream -LB 614

Thurman Teague recalls Johnny Black(p) on one of the early sessions as the only change in the above personnel. Black, however, claims he never recorded for Nichols. The following tunes also seem to fit in about this time, but identification of the pianist has been impossible.

Rockin' Chair -BMI 8 Beau Arr. 2/23/45
Parade of the Wooden Soldiers -BMI 8 Beau Arr. 2/21/45
Lazy River -BMI 8 Beau Arr. 2/10/45
The Very Thought of You -LB 202
Love Is The Sweetest Thing -LB 202
When My Sugar Walks Down The Street -LB 202
What Is This Thing Called Love -LB 292

Betty Taylor apparently replaced Wynne Fair as vocalist in the Club Morocco Band about the fall of 1945. So the same group made these tunes with Betty Taylor vocals:

I'm On Your Waiting List -LB 211
Stranger In Town -LB 211
Young Man With a Horn -LB 246
Let It Snow -LB 246
Personality -LB 246

Without vocals:

Stars Fell on Alabama -LB 246

Because of the date Heinie Beau made the arrangements, the Morocco Band must have recorded these tunes in the October-November 1945 period:

Should I -LB 212 Beau Arr. 8/21/45
C Jam Blues -LB 292 Beau Arr. 9/23/45
Begin the Beguine -LB 292 Montenegro Arr.
Sweet And Low -BMI 7
Camptown Races -BMI 7
Midnight Blue -BMI 7
Frenesi -BMI 24

Any MacGregor transcriptions made in January, February, March 1946 probably had the following personnel:

Red Nichols(o), Rosy McHargue(ol), Al Pellegrini(te), Pete DeSantis(p), Thurman Teague(b), Rollie Culver(dm).

Possible tunes:

When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again-BMI 19
So It Goes -BMI 19

If MacGregors were out in April, May, or June of 1946, the probable personnel was:

Red Nichols(o), Hymie Gunkler(ol), Don Lodice(ts), Al Pellegrini(p), Thurman Teague(b), Rollie Culver(dm).

Possible tunes:

Easter Parade -LB 326
Hour of Parting -LB 326
Morning Glory -LB 326

The Pennies toured to San Francisco in July and August 1946. On their return, according to Dottie O'Brien, she made one MacGregor session with the touring band. These have a Dottie O'Brien vocal so the personnel should be:

Red Nichols(o), Jo Jo Huffman(ol), Don Lodice(ts), Pete DeSantis(p), Thurman Teague(b), Rollie Culver(dm).

Where's There's You There's Me -BMI 24
All The Cats Joined In -BMI 24
Who If Not You -BMI 27
Sleep Tight Tonight -BMI 27
Route 66 -LB 326

One bit of confusion on this session, Heinie Beau feels he can identify himself on the first tune and that Herbie Haymer can be heard on the second.

In the fall of 1946 the following group probably recorded the tunes indicated:

Red Nichols(o), Heinie Beau(ol), Herbie Haymer or Don Lodice(ts), Pete DeSantis(p), Thurman Teague(b), Rollie Culver(dm).

Over The Rainbow -LB 292 Beau Arr. 6/28/46
Bala -BMI 24

HELP! Help wanted! ----- to complete the discography of RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES on MacGregor ET's.

THE FIVE PENNIES PAPERBACK ----- REMOVING ITS POETIC LICENSE

When Grady Johnson wrote the paperback version of "The Five Pennies" he did a professional job. The story, subtitled "The Biography of Jazz Band Leader Red Nichols" and "Containing a novelization of Dena Picture's Paramount release in VistaVision and Technicolor", was well written and makes for interesting reading. The first printing was May 1959, a Dell First Edition, B128, published by Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 750 Third Ave., NYC.

Since this is a biography, the first question that comes to mind is 'how factual is it?' Red Nichols told me the story was about 75% fact and 25% fiction. Depending on the weight given various statements when doing the mathematics, the answers could vary widely.

First of all, let's get the truths out of the way. There was a young, redheaded, cornet player from Ogden, Utah, who came to the Big Apple in the early twenties. His name was ----- Loring Nichols. He made a tremendous musical impact in the big city. He was in constant demand and played, at one time or another, for just about every musical director of the day -- in person or on records. He organized his own recording groups. He directed the music for Broadway shows, radio shows, and led many traveling dance bands. He left the music business in the early forties and returned a few years later. He married a wonderful woman who gave birth to his daughter. His daughter contracted polio; her recovery was miraculous (and today is the mother of three healthy children).

Such cold facts needed the Hollywood embellishment before they emerged as a screenplay. The resultant movie, "The Five Pennies", was top notch and delightful entertainment. So for the purist, where does the story deviate from fact?

Chapter 1

- * The year was 1923, not 1924; so Red was 18, not 19.
- * By this time he had met Bix Beiderbecke but not Miff Mole.
- * Red's style had not emerged as yet. That came after the Pelham Heath Inn -- maybe a year or so later.
- * He was hardly a 'hayseed' and the Culver students didn't persecute him for his Mormon beliefs (see "Small Change" this issue).
- * He saw his horseblanket jacket before New York when playing with THE SYNCOPATING FIVE in Atlantic City, N.J.
- * There was no Will Paradise in real life --- remember, Red took his own group to Pelham Heath Inn; he actually came to NYC to fill a chair in an existing band.

- * Red played first time with Jimmy Dorsey when they were members of the CALIFORNIA RAMBLERS in 1925.
- * The drummer, Tony Valani who became his fast friend and manager, is fictional.

Chapter 2

- * Red didn't meet Bobbie Meredith, his wife, on that first trip to New York -- he didn't begin dating her until 1926 in Atlantic City (when the "Vanities" was tying out before NYC).
- * The setting is entirely fictitious -- Red didn't see Louis Armstrong in a New York speakeasy. In the fall of 1924, Red was with Sam Lanin's Orch. at the Roseland Ballroom; playing opposite them was Fletcher Henderson's Orch. with Satchmo.

Chapter 3

- * The story about Red and Bix is basically accurate.
- * Red's roommate who married Hannah Williams was Charlie Kaley, the vocalist.
- * Red and Bobbie were married May 8, 1927. Red was with Paul Whiteman's Orch.; PW was best man. They all had breakfast at the Astor after which Red, not Pops, took Bobbie home. Red did have a commitment later for PW was in a Broadway show with

14

matinee and night performances plus doing dinner shows at his own club.

- * It's true that Red and Bing Crosby stopped between dates (the matinee and 6 PM dinner show at the Palais Royal) to say hello to Bobbie. She did drive Red's automobile home to her mother in Brooklyn, but not because she was burned up -- only to pass the evening while Loring was at work -- PW played at the club until 2 AM.

Chapter 4

- * Red's wife never sang with a band -- the entire episode is false.
- * Red never walked out on a number he didn't like -- or hit a band leader such as Will Paradise.

Chapter 5

- * Red did have a 25¢ "mistake kitty" for his band members. They also had to bring a pencil with an eraser; however, that was in the 30's.
- * Jimmy Dorsey and Dave Tough could hardly be betting on Bobbie's pregnancy for neither were in the band at the time. Daughter Dorothy was born May 30, 1928.
- * The band wasn't scheduled to open in Pittsburgh on Friday after Dorothy was born. Actually, at this time Red was in on a 50-50 deal with Don Voorhees and working in New York.
- * The night Bobbie came home from the hospital, he did not spend it in the 47th St. Police Station jail for hitting a cab while under the influence of liquor.
- * While baby Dorothy and Red's wife did travel with the band, the story is embellished out of all proportions.
- * In Sept. 1928 Red entered into a partnership with Cass Hagan to tour to the west coast. They opened Fatty Arbuckle's Club Dec. 2, 1928 and stayed most of January.
- * When they were in San Francisco, nor at any other time, did small Dorothy rehearse a song with the band.
- * Bobbie didn't leave Dorothy in S.F. to attend a friends wedding in Las Vegas -- so the poker playing incident, which lead Red and daughter to sneak out to hear 'uncle Louie', didn't exist. Red wasn't at the Mark Hopkins Hotel while Louie was at a waterfront joint.
- * They didn't sign for a 10-month tour when in San Francisco; Artie Shaw did not join until the summer of 1931.

Chapter 6

- * Personnel of 1929 road band as given except Tommy Coonan should be spelled Tommy Thunen; add Max Kaminsky (tp). Actually this group toured before the Broadway show "Strike Up The Band". According to Kaminsky's book "My Life In Jazz", Pete Peterson and Herb Taylor were the trombonists and Sammy Levitan should be added on bass.
- * Actually, Bobbie was born in Danville, Ind. but moved to Memphis when quite young. She lived with foster parents, an aunt and uncle. He was a contractor and builder who moved to Brooklyn because the work was there. This is how Bobbie came to live in Brooklyn.
- * In 1935, Red bought a home in Forest Hills, L.I., 10548 67th Drive, New York.
- * It wasn't until 1939 that Dorothy went to school in S.F.
- * Red was booked by Frederick Brothers Music Corp. of Kansas City. He had signed a contract. When the agency wasn't getting Red the kind of bookings he wanted, Red tried to break the contract. The Union ruled that Red had to play out his contract, which was disastrous financially. (See "Before The Intermission" in this issue for details)
- * The movie implies that Red left the music business to nurse polio-stricken Dorothy back to health -- the paperback is more accurate in this regard.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

A RED NICHOLS DISCOGRAPHY



(See sessions of September 1959)

Red's Pennies who made the State Department tour to the Near East the beginning of 1960. 1 to r - Pete Beilmann(tb), Joe Rushton(b sax) Bill Wood(cl), Rollic Culver(dm), Al Sutton(p), and Red.

SINCE 1956

A RED NICHOLS DISCOGRAPHY Since 1956

Issue 12 of Record Research contained a detailed Modern Red Nichols Discography since 1940. The last sessions reported were by RED NICHOLS AND HIS FAMOUS PENNIES for Capitol in September 1956. Other more recent appearances of Nichols on records follow:

1. October 5, 1956 - Hollywood, California

THE ANDREWS SISTERS(PATTY, MAXENE and LAVERNE) with Orchestra under the direction of VIG SCHÖEN

Red Nichols, Marnie Klein(tp); Jack Teagarden(tb); Bob(Babe) Russell, Ed Rosa(sax); Vincent Terri(g); Jack Ryan(b); Ernie Hughes, Nick Patool(dm); Al Lapin(contractor).

15974 Rancho Pillow -Cap #790, EAP 2-790
15975 Beer Barrel Polka - " " EAP 1-790
15976 (Boogie Woogie) Bugle Boy - " " EAP 2-790
15977 Rum and Coca Cola - " " EAP 1-790

Cap #790 titled "The Andrews Sisters in Hi-Fi"

2. c. February, 1957 - Hollywood, California

"Stare for Defense" Dixieland Jamboree - Program No. 34

Red Nichols, Charlie Teagarden, Dick Cathoart, Conrad Gozzo, Frank Beach, John Best(tp); Jack Teagarden, Moe Schneider, King Jackson, Murray McEachern, Warren Smith, Bill Schaefer(tb); Benny Carter, Chuck Gentry, Wayne Songer, Matty Matlock, Eddie Miller, Babe Russell(saxes); Al Hendrickson, Nappy Lamare(g); Stan Wrightman, Al Pellegrini(p); Morty Corb(b); Phil Stephens(tuba); Jack Sperling, Nick Patool(dm); Bob Crosby(conductor & M.C.); Don Rickels(announcer).

Eddie Miller featured on clarinet on first tune.

RR-23623 (March Theme) South Rampart Street Parade (F-77163) Basin Street Blues - Jack Teagarden(vo) Milenberg Joye(March Theme)

Recorded live for release on 16-in. transcriptions by Federal Civil Defense Administration. Special pressings were also made on 12-in. LP's for reference file and for each musician. On 12-in. LP Part I included the first two tunes; Part II contains the third tune.

3. June 24, 1957 - Hollywood, California

RCA LP "The Best of Eddie Cantor". Music arranged and conducted by HENRI RENE. Vocal arrangements by Bill Thompson. Originally issued on Vix LX-1119 with spoken voice track introduction by Cantor; intros were deleted when released on Camden CAL-531

Bobby Guy, Pete Candoli, Red Nichols(tp); Frances Joe Howard, Pete Seilmann(tb); Ted Nash, Jules Kinsler, Dave Harris, Lawrence Wright(reeds); John "Curley" Williams, Jr(p); Perry Botkin(bjo/g); Country Washburne(st. b.); John Cyr, Max Albright(dm & effects).

HAPB-3096 Waiting For The Robert E. Lee Side 2-Track 1
" -3097 Ballin' The Jack " 2 " 4
" -3098 If You Knew Sueie(Like L Know Sueie) " 1 " 2
" -3099 Josephine Please No Lean on the Bell " 1 " 5

4. June 25, 1957 - Hollywood, California

RCA LP "The Best of Eddie Cantor" continued

Bobby Guy, Pete Candoli, Red Nichols(tp); Matty Matlock(cl); Wilbur Schwartz, Jules Kinsler, Lawrence Wright(saxes); Curley Williams(p); Perry Botkin(bjo/g); Country Washburne(st.b.); John Cyr, Max Albright(dm & effects), plus 8 violins, and Bill Thompson Singers - Louie Jean Norman, Sue Lytle, Peggy Clark, Ralph Brewster, and Tom Kenny.

HAPB-3100 Ain't She Sweet Side 2-Track 5
" -3101 Makin' Whoopee " 1 " 3
" -3102 Margie " 2 " 2
" -3103 Ida, Sweet as Apple Cider-vocal group " 2 " 3

5. June 26, 1957 - Hollywood, California

RCA LP "The Best of Eddie Cantor" continued.

Red Nichols(o); Pete Beilmann(tb); Matty Matlock(cl); Babe Russell(saxes); Curley Williams(p); Perry Botkin(bjo); Country Washburne(tuba); John Cyr(dm); Bill Thompson Singers

H2PB-3104 Baby Face - vocal Group Side 2-Track 6
" -3105 Ma(He's Making Eyes at Me)-vocal gr. " 1 " 6
" -3106 Yee Sir, That's My Baby - vocal gr. " 1 " 1
" -3107 How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm " 1 " 4

6. Late 1957 - Hollywood, California

"The Navy Swings" Transcriptions. Four programs recorded at one 3-hour session at Univeral

Red Nichols(o); Moe Schneider(tb); Bill Wood(as/cl); Joe Rushton(b sax); Bobby Van Epe(p); Rollic Culver(dm) with Marion Morgan - vocalist.

Program I Dixie
(F79707) It's a Foggy Day -Morgan(vo)
Corky
Marry a Rich Woman - Morgan(vo)

Program II Fidgety Feet
(F79708) Come Rain or Come Shine - Morgan(vo)
Bugler's Lament
Shooting High - Morgan(vo)

Program III Parade of the Pennies
(F 79709) My Funny Valentine - Morgan(vo)
Maple Leaf Rag
I've Got a Crush on You - Morgan(vo)

Program IV Lassie Trombone
(F 79710) Star Duet - Morgan(vo)
Blues at Midnight
Almost Like Being In Love - Morgan(vo)

Navy Swings Demonstration record F 81293 has a small bit of "Parade of the Pennies" from Program III above.

7. April 12, 1958 - Hollywood, California - 2:00 PM Saturday

RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES

Red Nichols(o); Moe Schneider(tb); Jackie Coon(mellophone); Wayne Songer(as,cl,bar. sax); Bill Wood(cl); Heinie Beau(cl,te); Joe Rushton(b sax); Bobby Van Epe(p, celeste); Allan Reese(g); Morty Corb(b); Rollic Culver(dm)

All tunes issued on Cap LP T-1051 titled "Parade of the Pennies", released November 1958. LP also issued on stereo(ST-1051) and in England using same album numbers.

18812 Avalon -also Cap(s)T-1803
18813 Japanese Sandman - " "
18814 Parade of the Pennies - " "
18815 Mississippi Mud - " " ,Cap TBC 1572
18834 Bass Face Joe
18835 Tea For Two
18836 Dixie

Album T-1803 titled "The All-Time Hits of Red Nichols and His Five Pennies", released November 5, 1962

Album TBC 1572 titled "24 Great Songs of the Turbulent Twenties", tune appears on Side 1, Track 4.

AFRS America's Popular Music No. 787 Transcription includes "Avalon", part of "Parade of the Pennies", "Bass Face Joe", and "Tea For Two".

15

8. June 4, 1958 - Hollywood, California - Noon

RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES - all issued on Cap LP (S)T-1051

Red Nichols(c); Moe Schneider(tb); Jackie Coon(mellophone); Wayne Songer(as, bar, sax); Heinie Beau(cl); Jerry Kaeper(b sax); Bobby Hammack(p); Allan Reese(g); Morty Corb(b); Jack Sperling(dm); Ralph Haneell(typani, vibee, bells).

19269 Davenport Blues
19270 Buddy's Habits
19271 Delta Roll
19272 Washboard Blues

"Davenport Blues" also appears on AFRS America's Popular Music No. 787 Transcription.

9. The Veterans Administration presents "Here's To Veterans"

Program No. 635 RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES

Transcriptions taken from Capitol masters:

Avalon - May 12, 1958
Blues at Midnight - September 7, 1956
Delta Roll - June 4, 1958

10. October 30, 1958 - Recorded on-the-spot at Marineland Restaurant, Palos Verdes, California

RED NICHOLS AND THE FIVE PENNIES AT MARINELAND was released May 1959 on Cap LP (S)T-1163

30585 Entry of the Gladiators -Side 1
30586 Singin' The Blues "
30536 Lonesome Lovesick, Got To Have My Daddy, Blues "
30537 St. Louis Blues "
30538 Fidgety Feet "
30539 Sign-off: Silver Thru the Gold (Phrase) "

30540 Medley: Carolina in the Morning, 'S Wonderful, -Side 2
At Sundown "
30541 Issue Trombone "
30542 My Inspiration "
30553 Medley: Goodnight Sweetheart, Sleepy Time Gal, "
Show Me The Way To Go Home "
Sign-off: Goodnight Ladies (Phrase) "

According to Capitol, a few tunes like "Tin Roof Blues", "American Patrol", "Satan Takes a Holiday", "Stop, Look & Listen" were taped at Marineland. These were not even given master numbers and subsequently were scrapped. All these tunes were remade in the studio on August 28 & 29, 1959.

11. November 1958 to April 1959 - Hollywood, California

Numerous recordings were made in connection with the Paramount movie "The Five Pennies". The music is available on the movie soundtrack album, Dot DLP 9500, DLP 29500 (M 50215). See Issue 24 of Record Research, Sept./Oct/ 1959 for details.

12. March 31, 1959 - Hollywood, California - 2:00 PM

RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES

All tunes released on Cap LP (S)T-1228, here and in England, August 1959 under title of "Meet The Five Pennies"

Red Nichols(c); Manny Klein, Bobby Goodrich(tp); Pete Beilmann, Moe Schneider(tb); Jackie Coon(mellophone); Heinie Beau, Bill Wood(cl); Wayne Songer(as, bar, sax); Joe Rushton(b sax); Bobby Hammack(p) celeste; Allan Reese(g); Morty Corb(b); Rollee Culver(dm). Arrangements by Heinie Beau.

31459 Indiana -also Cap (S)T-1803
31460 Eccentric - " " "
31461 Margie - " " "
31462 When The Saints Go Marching - " " " ,EAP 1-1206
In (fast section)
31472 Battle Hymn of the - " " " " "
Republic (fast section)

13. April 3, 1959 - Hollywood, California - 2:00 PM

RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES

All tunes released on Cap LP (S)T-1228; see session above.

Red Nichols(c); Pete Beilmann, Elmer "Moe" Schneider(tb); Bill Wood(cl); Heinie Beau(cl, bar, sax); Wayne Songer(as, bar, sax); Joe Rushton(b sax); Bobby Hammack(p); Morty Corb(b); Rollee Culver(dm); Ralph Haneell(typani, vibee, bells, chimes). Arrangements by Heinie Beau.

31462 When The Saints Go Marching -also Cap (S)T-1803, EAP 1-1206
In (opening slow part)
31472 Battle Hymn of the - " " " " "
Republic (opening slow part)
31537 Five Pennies (from Movie)
31538 Shim-Me-Sha-Wabble
31539 Bill Bailey, Won't You Please
Come Home?
31540 Allah's Holiday
31541 Lullaby in Ragtime (from Movie)

14. May 1959 - from Roundtable in New York City

RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES

Your Treasury of Music No. 98 - in cooperation with NBC and the AFM as a contribution to the U. S. Treasury Department released through facilities of the Armed Forces Radio Service.

Red Nichols(c); Pete Beilmann(tb); Bill Wood(cl); Joe Rushton(b sax); Al Sutton(p); Rollee Culver(dm); Ray Barrett(announcer).

Wall of the Winds - theme
Medley: Ida, Layin' in the Hay, Japanese Sandman
American Patrol
Riverboat Shuffle
That's a Plenty
Carolina in the Morning
Wall of the Winds - theme

15. Capitol Program No. 1170 for Radio-TV Program Use

"The Best of Red Nichols" - Promotional Record put out in connection with the movie. All selections on Side I are from the motion picture "The Five Pennies" - all are featured in Red's new album "Meet The Five Pennies"

Side I Recording Date

1. Back Home Again in Indiana 3/31/59
2. Bill Bailey, Won't You Please Come Home 4/3/59
3. Battle Hymn of the Republic 3/31/59 & 4/3/59
4. Lullaby in Ragtime 4/3/59
5. When The Saints Go Marching In 3/31/59 & 4/3/59
6. The Five Pennies 4/3/59

Side II - showcasing some of the all-time hits of Red's career - taken from his five Capitol Albums

1. Ida 9/7/56
2. Japanese Sandman 4/12/58
3. Dixie 4/12/58
4. Eccentric 3/31/59
5. Avalon 4/12/58
6. Entry of the Gladiators 10/30/58
7. Mississippi Mud 4/12/58
8. Peg O' My Heart 9/7/56

16. July 1, 1959 - Columbia Pictures, Hollywood, California -10 AM

The following group recorded the Nichols sequence, "Indiana" for the "Gene Krupa Story" released on Verve MGVS-6105 and MGVS-15010

Red Nichols(c); Moe Schneider(tb); Heinie Beau(cl); Skeets Herfurt(as); Barney Kessel(g); John Williams(p); Morty Corb(b); Gene Krupa(dm).

17. July 1959 - from Harrah's Club, Reno, Nevada

RED NICHOLS AND HIS FIVE PENNIES

Your Treasury of Music No. 102 - in cooperation with NBC and the AFM as a contribution to the U. S. Savings Bond Division of the Treasury Department.

Red Nichols(c); Pete Beilmann(tb); Bill Wood(cl); Joe Rushton(b sax); Al Sutton(p); Rollee Culver(dm); Jerry Roy(announcer).

Wall of the Winds - theme
At the Jazz Band Ball
Tin Roof Blues
Panama
Riverboat Shuffle
Wall of the Winds -theme

18. August 9, 1959 - Sunday 8:00 PM, Chicago Stadium, Playboy Jazz Festival

Red Nichols(c); Pete Beilmann(tb); Bill Wood(cl); Joe Rushton(b sax); Al Sutton(p); Rollee Culver(dm)

AFRS Transcription AF 17738 RED NICHOLS & HIS FIVE PENNIES "This Is Jazz" No. 17

Medley: Carolina in the Morning, 'S Wonderful, Avalon
Fidgety Feet
Roaring 20's Medley: Ballin' The Jack, How Come You
Do Me Like You Do-Do-So, Ja Da, Baby Won't You
Please Come Home
Battle Hymn of the Republic

19. August 28, 1959 - Hollywood, California

RED NICHOLS AND THE FIVE PENNIES

Tunes from this session and the next were released January 1960 on Cap LP (S)T-1297 titled "Dixieland Dinner Dance"

Red Nichols(c); Pete Beilmann(tb); Bill Wood(cl); Joe Rushton(b sax); Bobby Hammack(p); Rollee Culver(dm).

32282-4 Baby, Won't You Please Come Home
32283-4 Medley: Ballin' The Jack, How Come You
Do Me Like You Do, Ja Da
32284-5 Johnson Rag
32285-2 Tin Roof Blues ---- Unissued
32291-2 Satan Takes a Holiday
32292-3 American Patrol

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18 Column 2)

THE CODA

Timewise Red Nichols played his coda in 1965. As the year began, Nichols' Quartette with Bill Campbell (p), Walt Yoder (b), and Rollee Culver (dm) was featured in the Zebra Room of the Sheraton West Hotel, 2961 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, nightly except Sunday and Thursday. Closing night was May 8, 1965. Red then started working on plans for a European tour the following year.

While at the Sheraton West, Red took leave for the Bell Telephone Hour on NBC-TV, March 9-17, 1965. Eddie Miller (ts) subbed with Red's Quartette. On Tuesday, March 16, 1965, live in color at 10:00 PM from New York City the nation viewed the Telephone Hour with Donald Voorhees and his orchestra. Actor-balladeer Burl Ives hosted this program of musical vignettes depicting life on the Mississippi. The show featured Red Nichols and the Five Pennies consisting of:

Miff Sines (tb), Peanuts Hucko (cl), Marty Napoleon (p)
Bob Haggart (st. b.) and Cliff Leeman (dm)

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION OF THE NEW MINT HOTEL & CASINO \$1/4 MILLION DOLLARS IN CASH PRIZES - PARTIES - SOUVENIRS FREE ROUND TRIP TO LAS VEGAS VIA WESTERN AIRLINES

SEE POSTED RULES AND REGULATIONS
JUNE 7TH THRU AUGUST 1ST, 1965

Red augmented his Quartette back to the Pennies size to appear at the newest hotel in Las Vegas. They opened May 27 for six weeks until July 7 at The Mint. Red was assisted by real professional instrumentalists with long-time recognition:

Matty Matlock (cl), Eddie Miller (ts), Bill Campbell (p), Walt Yoder (st. b.), Rollee Culver (dm), Laura Mancuso (vo).

A special newspaper, The Mint Hotel Grand Opening Edition, reported: "A new era comes to downtown Las Vegas with the quarter million dollar opening celebration of the plush \$14 million 26-story Mint Hotel, Nevada's tallest building. The \$250,000, the most ever given away by a Nevada resort in a single celebration of fun and prizes, will be spent in a series of drawings and parties -- starting June 7 and lasting for 56 days -- it was announced by General Manager Sam Boyd. The Del E. Webb Construction Co. will officially open the Mint on that day."

Fitting that the Pennies should be first in The Mint. They played for dancing at the "Top of The Mint" from 9:00 PM until 3:00 AM.

Living at the Blair House, a plush motel, on June 28, 1965, Red called the owner Mrs. Adell Handler shortly before 2:00 PM with the message, "Get me a doctor. I Can't breathe." Within four minutes an ambulance arrived with oxygen. Shortly after being administered oxygen Nichols said, "I'm OK. I'm all right to be moved now." At 2:50 PM he was pronounced dead at the Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital of a heart seizure.

THE CODA

Rollee Culver told me, "We were all shocked at the sudden passing of 'Red' because he seemed in good health and played real good the night before it happened". Samuel Lichter, entertainment director at the casino said, "Red Nichols and His Five Pennies have been packing them in, young and old. We had just picked up his option, and told him we wanted him back three or four times a year."

Contrary to speculations in the trade journals, the Pennies finished their 6-week assignment and no more. Bob Higgins, on trumpet and flugelhorn, came over to finish the engagement for Red. The group disbanded on July 7.

W. H. "Bill" Miller of Capitol Records agreed that a phase of history ended with Red Nichols' death. "His funeral was a very moving event, attended by many greats in music and show business." The funeral ceremony was held in Peace Chapel, Kiefer and Eyerick Mortuary, 314 E. Harvard St., Glendale, California, on July 1, 1965 at 2:00 P. M. The Rev. R. Park Anderson, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Glendale, officiated. The organ music was provided by Lyda Roach. Cremation followed at the Grand View Crematory, also in Glendale.

Life is spent in preparation for supreme tranquility or death. Most of us prepare poorly. We leave few cherished marks on earth before we face our Creator. In his lifetime, Loring Nichols made endless contributions to society. His music left happy notes the world over. He entertained millions. He generated love. He dedicated his life to upgrading the quality of American music. Progress was made through his efforts. His marks of accomplishment are many. People received his influence through music without knowing it.

As on any worthwhile theme, there is a conflicting minority-- fortunately they remain that because they are.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

For
LORING "RED" NICHOLS

Native of
UTAH

Passed Away

JUNE 28, 1965

Services Held at

"Peace Chapel"

KIEFER & EYERICK MORTUARY

JULY 1, 1965 - 2:00 P. M.

Officiant

REV. R. PARK ANDERSON

Music

LYDA ROACH

Cremation

GRAND VIEW CREMATORY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The information presented here has taken many years to compile. Without the help of collectors, musicians and friends this special issue would not have been possible. The difficulty with acknowledgements is that only a few get singled out and many more receive no specific mention.

So first to those whose name may not appear, you helped to provide the continuity and cross-checks which are greatly appreciated. Next, especial thanks to collectors Stan Hester, Phil Evans, and Ken Crawford, who over the years have supplied much information and encouragement which kept my interest high. The same can be said of musician friends Heinie Beau and Rollee Culver. To the fine men at Capitol Records, Bill Miller and Dave Dexter, Jr., thanks for being patient with my questions. To Duncan P. Schiedt for the use of his photographs and to the editors for publishing this Memorial Issue.

